(d) the total estimated cost of Sambalpur-Talcher Railway line at present ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) Its completion will depend on availability of resources in the coming years.

(b) Percentage of work done is 19% upto July, 90. Amount spent is Rs. 27.62 crores upto March, 90.

(c) During 1990-91.

(d) Rs. 100.00 crores.

Production of Edible Oils

3585. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) what was the production of oilseeds and edible oils during the year 1989-90;

(b) how does it compare with the previous three years;

(c) whether Government have undertaken any review of the oilseeds and elible oils policy; and

(d) what is Government's action plan to remove the shortage of edible oils ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) The production of oilseeds and edible oils during the last three years is as follows :

Year	Production of oil seeds (lakh tonnes)	Production of edible oil (lakh tonnes)
1986-87	112·7	33·48
1987-88	126·5	37·67
1988-89	178·9	49·50
1989-90	171·6*	47·81*

*Estimated

(c) The oilseeds and edible oil production, import, distribution and pricing is being regularly monitored by the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation and by the Empowered Committee on Oilseeds Policy.

(d) During the VIII Plan, the Government would continue to support the farmers with technology, inputs and remunerative price for oilseeds with the objective of achieving near self-reliance in edible oils by the year 1994-95.

Regulations for Control of Pesticides

3586. SHRI SHAMIM HASHMI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that in U.K. under control of pesticides Regulation 1980 it is illegal to use any pesticide except officially approved by their Ministry of Agriculture; and

(b) if so whether similar regulations exist in India and if not, the reasons therefor and the steps proposed to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) The Government is aware that the use of pesticides is Regulated in U.K. in India also, use of pesticides is strictly regulated through Insecticides Act 1968. No pesticides can be used in India unless it is registered for this purpose by the Registration Committee set up under this Act.

Adulteration of vegetable oil by the NDDB

3587. SHRI SHAMIM HASHMI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of dissatisfaction over PDS and price-rise ex-

pressed at the recent seminar organised at Delhi on 17th July, 1990 by the Mahila Dakshta Samiti;

(b) whether Government are also aware that Government units such as the NDDB is the major defaulter by marketing groundnut oil with soyabean oil in its one litre packs without any declaration as required;

(c) whether it is illegal to market vegetable oil in one litre packs and if so, action taken against the defaulters; and

(d) whether Government propose to take action in respect of (b) above and also ban adulteration of vegetable oils at the earliest ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR) : (a) To improve the availability of edible oils and control their prices, the oil release through PDS has been increased to 92,000 MT in the current month from a level of 40,000 MT in the month of April, 1990. To avoid hoarding stock limits of edible oils and oilseeds have been reduced. Various other steps have also been taken by Government for curbing the rising trend of prices in edible oils.

(b) NDDB is marketing only pure groundnut oil in one litre packs and the same is declared on the packs.

(c) NDDB has been permitted to pack and market edible oils in one litre packs vide Notification No. S.O. 596 (E) dated 27th July, 1990 issued by the Ministry of Food & Civil Supplies.

(d) In view of the reply to (b), the question of the taking action in respect of (b) does not arise. Adulteration of vegetable oils is punishable under Prevention of Food Adulteration Act.

Tours by the Directors and Other Scientists of the Institutes

3588. SHRI SHAMIM HASHMI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of days (working and non-working) in a year during which the Directors of each of the R & D Laboratories and Units and Projects etc. under the Ministry of Agriculture were out of station (including Travel time) during 1989-90;

(b) whether any other scientists of each of the above Institutes were absent for more than one month, more than two months and three months and above; if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any guidelines have been framed in this regard for scientific staff and if so, the details thereof and if not, whether these would be framed and implemented in near future; and

(d) whether Government propose to discourage such travelling by scientists so that they can devote themselves to their duties ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR) : (a) to (d) Sir, The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

World Bank loan for dairy projects in Tamil Nadu

3589. SHRI SHAMIM HASHMI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Bank had given a loan of Rs. 31 crores for a dairy project in Tamil Nadu as appeared in the Hindu of the 13th July, 1990 and if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether it is a fact that milk production has already gone up far ahead of the plans and if so, the reasons for going in for World Bank loan for such a project; and

(c) whether Government propose to review the above decision ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR) : (a) to (c) World Bank is not providing any direct assistance for a dairy project in Tamil Nadu. However, under